

DMC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 16th, 2004

I. Formation of sub-group to address the increase in females in the juvenile justice system –

- At the Detention Center, 25% - 27% of youth detained are females. Today, 20 of 60 youth detained are females. This number does fluctuate.
- There is an increase in the number of female youth who are pregnant.
- TLC Program has a waiting list with mid-December, being projected for their first opening.
- Are there enough placements for pregnant teens?
- Melissa is trying to get Try Another Way into more agencies, there is another training in Lincoln, in January, 05

II. DMC Data – 2003

- The data that the team reviewed with Anne Hobbs is from federal forms.
- Less than 1% of Hawaiian's live in Lancaster Co.
- Data includes only youth who live in Lancaster Co. Does not include contracted youth.
- Does not include data from the Lincoln City Atty's. office because they do not include race in their forms.
- Lancaster Co. has a high rate of African-American youth who are: arrested, sent to juvenile court, youth less likely to be sent through Diversion and less likely to be placed on Probation.
- Hispanic youth - Lancaster Co. has a high rate of youth: who are detained and juveniles who are sent to secure facilities.
- Asian youth – The number of youth is low, it may be under reported because culturally people take care of it themselves.
- Native American youth – Arrest, referral to court, secure detention, are all very high. Native American youth are unlikely to be referred to Diversion. Diversion is not successful with Native American youth. Two of nine youth referred to Diversion have successfully completed Diversion.
- Compared to Sarpy Co. Lancaster Co. is detaining a significantly higher number of minority youth.

- The Fed's are saying that Lancaster Co.: detains many youth, we need key stake holders such as Lincoln Police Dept., Juvenile Court Judges and others to participate in the DMC discussions.
- The committee agreed that case studies need to be completed to determine, what factors are influencing the high rate of minority youth being detained in Lancaster Co.
- Committee determined that we need to determine what areas youth are violating laws in.